

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 AID-05 SS-15
STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01
/096 W

-----212040Z 041678 /50

R 210921Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2862

UNCLAS BUCHAREST 2915

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:ETRD, RO

SUBJECT: GSP: FIRST YEAR REVIEW

REF: STATE 67507

1. ACCORDING MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (MFT) OFFICIALS, GSP CAN ASSIST ROMANIA IN DEVELOPING ITS BILATERAL TRADE WITH US, ALTHOUGH FIRST YEAR RESULTS WERE DISAPPOINTING. BASING THEIR FURTHER OBSERVATIONS ON US STATISTICS, THEY SAID THAT IN 1976, US IMPORTS OF GSP ITEMS FROM ROMANIA TOTALLED \$28 MILLION, AN INCREASE OF \$6 MILLION (27.2 PERCENT) OVER THE 1975 FIGURE; THIS RESULT DISAPPOINTING WHEN ONE CONSIDERS THAT TOTAL US IMPORTS FROM ROMANIA GREW AT 49.4 PERCENT RATE. THEY ADDED THAT ROMANIAN EXPORTERS HAVE NOT HAD ANY SIGNIFICANT PROBLEMS WITH US GSP REGULATIONS, INCLUDING THOSE CONCERNING CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN. MAJOR NEW NON-TRADITIONAL EXPORTS TO US STIMULATED BY GSP INCLUDE RADIOS AND FIBERBROAD. NO NEW INVESTMENTS WERE UNDERTAKEN OR PRESENTLY PLANNED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF GSP (BASICALLY BECAUSE NEWNESS OF GSP AND POSSIBILITY ROMANIA MAY MOVE OUT OF LDC CATEGORY IN NEXT FEW YEARS). MFT OFFICIALS DID STATE THAT US GRANTING OF GSP WAS UNCLASSIFIED

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POLITICALLY BENEFICIAL TO ROMANIA IN ITS RELATIONS WITH THE GROUP OF 77.

2. REGARDING GSP SCHEMES OF OTHER COUNTRIES, ROMANIAN EXPORTS BENEFIT FROM GSP ACCORDED IT BY EEC, OTHER WEST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AND JAPAN. MFT OFFICIALS SAID THAT HIGHER PERCENTAGE OF ROMANIAN EXPORTS TO THESE COUNTRIES

ACCOUNTED FOR BY GSP ITEMS THAN IS CASE FOR US, E.G.
PERCENTAGE RANGES FROM 25 IN CASE OF EEC TO OVER 50 IN
CASE OF SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND AND AUSTRIA, WHILE FOR US IT ONLY
14.1. IN ONE RESPECT, US GSP PROCEDURES LESS DISCRIMINATORY
THAN THOSE OF EEC AS THERE SEVERAL ITEMS THAT EEC ACCORDS
GSP TO OTHER LDCS BUT NOT TO ROMANIA. HOWEVER, GSP SCHEMES
OF OTHER COUNTRIES MORE LIBERAL THAN US SYSTEM IN SENSE
THAT, WHEN IMPORTS OF PARTICULAR ITEM SURPASS TRIGGER
LIMIT, EXPORTING COUNTRY DOES NOT LOSE GSP FOR THIS ITEM;
BUT EXPORTS ABOVE THIS LIMIT ENTER AT HIGHER DUTY RATE.
BARNES

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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